

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AEC-07 NASA-02 NSF-02 PM-03 PA-02

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DEPT FOR OES/SCI; PLEASE PASS AEC DR. RAY; NASA, NSF

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS: OTRA, TECH, FR, TSPA

SUBJECT: VISIT OF FRENCH SCIENCE WRITER SERGE BERG OF
AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

SUMMARY: APPOINTMENTS AT AEC AND NSF ARE REQUESTED FOR
SERGE BERG, WHO WILL VISIT WASHINGTON DECEMBER 19 AND
20 AFTER WITNESSING LAUNCHING OF SYMPHONIE AT CAPE
CANAVERAL. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE PRELIMINARY RE-
SPONSE CABLED BY COB DECEMBER 12 IF POSSIBLE. END
SUMMARY

2. SERGE BERG, ONE OF THE MORE RESPECTED AND WIDELY
READ FRENCH NEWSPAPER SCIENCE WRITERS WILL WITNESS THE
LAUNCHING OF THE SYMPHONIE SATELLITE ON DECEMBER 18 AS
A MEMBER OF THE GOF CONTINGENT TO CAPE CANAVERAL. HE
THEN PLANS TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON FOR MEETINGS BEGIN-
NING EARLY ON DECEMBER 19. HE WOULD APPRECIATE APPOINT-
MENTS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS ON THURSDAY AT NSF TO
DISCUSS THE ANTARTIC RESEARCH PROGRAM AND THE "USG
SCIENCE BUDGET". ALSO ON THURSDAY HE WOULD LIKE TO
MEET WITH NASA OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE US-USSR JOINT
MISSION ASTP. ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 HE WOULD APPRECIATE
MEETING WITH APPROPRIATE AEC OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS PHYSI-
CAL SECURITY OF NUCLEAR REACTORS AND MATERIALS AND THE
TECHNOLOGY OF BREEDER REACTORS.

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3. FRANCE IS ABOUT TO UNDERTAKE A THREE-MONTH EXTENDED PROGRAM TO EDUCATE ITS PEOPLE ON NUCLEAR REACTORS FOR COMMERCIAL POWER PRODUCTION. THE BETTER SCIENCE WRITERS OF THE FRENCH NEWSPAPERS FEEL THEY MUST PARTICIPATE IN THIS EFFORT CONSTRUCTIVELY AND WITH ALL POSSIBLE RELEVANT FACTS AT HAND. SERGE BERG IS NO STRANGER TO THE US OR THE SUBJECT OF NUCLEAR POWER AND HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY SCICON TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS. WE BELIEVE DISCUSSIONS WITH SERGE BERG TO BE POTENTIALLY VERY BENEFICIAL TO U.S. NUCLEAR INTERESTS BY ASSISTING FRANCE IN THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION EFFORT AND THROUGH HIM TO SHOW OUR DEEP CONCERN FOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A NUCLEAR EXPORTER.

4. SERGE BERG HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE ON REPORTING RUSSIAN SCIENCE ACTIVITIES AND WILL PROBABLY BE DETAILED TO THE USSR TO COVER THE ASTP IN MID L975.

5. MR. BERG HAS RESERVATIONS AT THE HOTEL WASHINGTON. HE CAN BE REACHED THERE OR THROUGH THE AGENCE FRANCE PRESS WASHINGTON OFFICE. IF POSSIBLE, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY CABLE APPOINTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE AS OF COB THURSDAY DECEMBER 12.
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